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CHICAGO — In the long, cold month since his arrest on corruption charges, Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich has lost to resignations his chief of staff, general counsel, state tollway director and a deputy governor. Other aides are actively searching for jobs, and the governor has not appeared at a single meeting of the full staff that remains.

Outside his 16th-floor office in the glassy downtown state building here, most everyone is avoiding him — even the elected state officials who work a floor or two below and lawmakers who would ordinarily be holding meetings with his budget staff on the state's troubled fiscal situation.

With the State Senate preparing the governor's impeachment trial for later this month, a choking reality has descended on Illinois: Many here are profoundly worried that the trial will mean weeks, maybe longer, of more of the same. More sinking state financial ratings and losses, like the \$21 million the state treasurer says the governor's arrest already cost Illinois on one bond deal. No hope of solving — or really even pondering — the state's huge and growing deficit or its record level of unpaid bills to day care and health care providers and others.

And, in the state office building, where Mr. Blagojevich has long had strained relations with other state officials, there seemed no hope of a shred of collaboration, or, in some cases, even a polite hello.

"Reasonable people and reasonable companies don't want to have anything to do with Governor Blagojevich," said Lisa Madigan, the attorney general who, like Mr. Blagojevich and most other leaders here, is a Democrat. "Do you even want to call? What are you going to do? Ask for a tax credit now? What's he going to do now?"

Though it is hardly unheard of to remain in office while facing accusations of wrongdoing, the circumstances have created a peculiar, bifurcated universe inside the James R. Thompson Center, as the state office building is known. On one floor, the governor has apparently prevailed in his contested effort to appoint Roland W. Burris to the Senate seat left vacant by

President-elect Barack Obama and goes right on issuing daily evidence of his work — pleas for more screening for cervical cancer, increased radon testing and new money for ramps for the disabled. On many lower floors, meanwhile, state officials openly scoff at his leadership and call, in ever-sharpening terms, for him to resign.

“This image of him still being on the job is just a smoke screen,” said Daniel W. Hynes, the Illinois comptroller, with offices one floor below the governor’s.

“There’s no communication with the constitutional officers,” Mr. Hynes said, referring to the state elected officials like himself. And, he added, “there’s no communication with the legislators.”

Opportunities, for instance, for Illinois to gain advantage in Mr. Obama’s economic stimulus plan may have fallen by the wayside, some fear, in all the focus here on the governor’s scandal, on thousands of salty phone calls intercepted by federal agents, on Mr. Obama’s old Senate seat that prosecutors say Mr. Blagojevich was bargaining to sell.

“We now have our own in the White House, but they can’t read our minds,” Mr. Hynes said. “Our governor should be out there pointing out areas where we could use help, but here we are.”

In fact, on Monday, United States Representative Mark Steven Kirk, Republican of Illinois, said he planned to introduce legislation in Washington to further divorce Mr. Blagojevich from whatever stimulus money may be pondered for Illinois; Mr. Kirk wants such money sent to the State Legislature instead of to Mr. Blagojevich’s office.

Here, even mundane, day-to-day co-existence has turned awkward. Trying to come to the office on a recent day, Mr. Hynes was irked, he said, when workers told him to wait to pull into the Thompson Center parking garage because, they said, the governor needed his vehicle ushered through first to avoid members of the news media.

Another day, Mr. Blagojevich, flanked by aides, bumped into Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn in a 15th-floor hallway. Mr. Blagojevich called out, “Hey, Pat.” Mr. Quinn was carrying a portable

television-and-radio he had been using to follow the governor's travails. He was so startled that he said nothing in reply.

Through it all, Mr. Blagojevich, who has proclaimed his innocence to the corruption charges, which have yet to be proved in court or even brought in a formal indictment, has seemed, at least publicly, to ignore his alienated circumstance. In the month since his arrest, he has signed more than a dozen bills, issued 22 pardons (before his arrest, he had granted 115 pardons over six years), and actually showed up to his Thompson Center office more often, say his bewildered building mates, than ever before.

Lucio Guerrero, the governor's spokesman, said Mr. Blagojevich would press ahead with his agenda — his annual budget address is expected next month — and on Wednesday would preside over the swearing-in of the new State Senate.

"This isn't only about him," Mr. Guerrero said. "If this drags on, and people refuse to work with the governor, they are responsible. I know the game is politics, but one side suffocating the other isn't going to help Illinois."

As to signs that Mr. Blagojevich has overwhelmingly lost support in this state of more than 12 million, and that, in the words of the lieutenant governor, "nobody will get within 10 feet of him," Mr. Guerrero looked to other indicators. He said that the governor had received 400 letters of support since his arrest on Dec. 9, and that there were perhaps less tangible glimmers of hope, too, like thumbs-up signs from passers-by at places like Starbucks.

Still, there are other intangible but unavoidable signs that Mr. Blagojevich, whose term ends in January 2011, cannot expect to solve much by energetically throwing himself into his work now, even through an impeachment hearing, which some have predicted will result in his removal by Lincoln's birthday, and even as prosecutors prepare an indictment, expected by April.

So far, legislators known informally as "budgeteers," a group assigned to keep a particular focus on the budget, seem reluctant even to meet with the governor's staff, despite the state's more than \$2 billion deficit, sinking revenues and unpaid bills that in December reached more than \$4 billion.

“It seems that the Blagojevich administration is crumbling, and we’re at a point where I’m not really sure it makes any sense to negotiate with him anyway,” said one of the budget leaders, Representative Gary Hannig, Democrat of Gillespie.

Mr. Quinn said he had practical worries for the state. Among the most pressing ones was that Mr. Blagojevich, after his arrest, lost his federal security clearance for classified information, including news of a terror threat to the state.

Mr. Quinn said the scandal had evolved into a giant distraction for state workers, particularly those in the governor’s office.

“The place is totally adrift,” Mr. Quinn said. “Anybody who rides the elevator up and down this building can see it. It’s ‘The Wizard of Oz’ here. This state is being run by Rod Blagojevich and his criminal defense lawyers.”

Much misery and mistrust predated Mr. Blagojevich’s arrest. Relationships between the governor and many other Illinois officials were never warm; other Democrats saw him as unavailable, insular and uninterested in collaboration — impressions that seem only to exacerbate his isolation now.

In a dispute late last year between workers and Republic Windows and Doors, a Chicago factory that had shut down with little warning to its workers, Mr. Blagojevich announced that he was halting state business with the Bank of America, which was one of the factory’s lenders and which some workers blamed for their circumstances. But Mr. Blagojevich failed to consult with or even notify Alexi Giannoulias, the state treasurer, of his plans, Mr. Giannoulias said, even though Mr. Giannoulias was involved in meetings with Bank of America and representatives for the factory workers.

One day after the governor’s announcement about Bank of America, he was arrested. His order about the bank was never carried out, Mr. Giannoulias said.

“It was dysfunction with him at the helm before, but it’s paralyzed now,” Mr. Giannoulias said. “We’re dealing with the most challenging financial crisis we’ve had since the Great Depression,

and there really is no one at the helm.”

Malcolm Gay contributed reporting from Springfield, Ill.